## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 LOC-01 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /064 W

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R 251614Z SEP 73 FM AMEMBASSY LONDON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4218 INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EIND, US, RP

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE COPYRIGHT PROTECTION

REF: STATE 183525

- 1. WE HAVE RAISED POINTS IN REFTEL DIRECTLY WITH INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT DIVISION OF DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI), WHICH IS UK AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR COPYRIGHT MATTERS. NEITHER DTI NOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE HAD RECEIVED ANY REPORTING FROM UK EMBASSY IN MANILA ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT DTI HAD OBTAINED COPY OF DECREE 285.
- 2. BRITISH ATTITUDE TOWARD PHILIPPINE DECREES IS INFLUENCED BY FACT THAT BRITISH PUBLISHERS DO NOT REGARD PHILIPPINES AS AN IMPORTANT MARKET TO THEM, BUT RATHER AS PRIMARILY A US MARKET. WHILE DTI RECOGNIZES FULLY THAT DECREES CONFLICT WITH BERNE CONVENTION AND FLORENCE AGREEMENT, THEY FEEL THAT DECREES CONTAIN SOME POSITIVE ASPECTS; I.E., PROVISIONS THAT THERE ARE TO BE STRICT EXPORT CONTROLS AND THAT SOME ROYALTIES ARE TO BE PAID. REAL QUESTION, DTI BELIEVES, IS WHAT PRACTICAL STEPS CAN BE TAKEN TO PERSUADE PHIIIPPINES TO WITHDRAW DECREE. DTI WOULD BE RELUCTANT SEE SUCH PRESSURE PUT ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOP THAT IT MIGHT WITHDRAW FROM CONVENTION ALTOGETHER,

SINCE, AS DTI OFFICIAL PUT IT, "THERE IS QUITE ENOUGH PIRATING OF BOOKS IN FAR EAST AS IT IS." BASIC FEELING IS THAT WHILE HMG HAS STRONG INTEREST IN THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED, BRITISH FEEL THAT THERE ARE FEW PRACTICAL STEPS THAT CAN BE TAKEN, PARTICULARLY SINCE PUBLISHER PRESSURE IS LACKING.

3. DESPITE FOREGOING, DTI OFFICIALS AGREED THAT, IF THEY CAN FIND SPECIFIC CASE INVOLVING UK INTEREST, THEY MAY RAISE ISSUE WITH GOP. THEY ALSO ASSURED US THAT WHILE THEY WOULD NOT TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN PROTESTING TO GOP, THEY WOULD NOT DO ANYTHING TO UNDERCUT USG POSITION.

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: COPYRIGHTS, EXPORT CONTROLS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 25 SEP 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973L ONDON10981

Document Number: 1973LONDON10981 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: LONDON

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730913/aaaaaizs.tel Line Count: 76 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: STATE 183525

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 25 JUL 2001

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <26-Nov-2001 by golinofr>

**Review Markings:** 

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PHILIPPINE COPYRIGHT PROTECTION

TAGS: EIND, US, RP, UK

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005